

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND PUBLIC SERVICES in Michigan

Highlights of the MDCH Traumatic Brain Injury Project: 2007-08

This report highlights the accomplishments of the Michigan Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) initiative. This reporting period, April 2007 through March 2008, marks the 9th year of the TBI Project in Michigan. With the support of federal and state funds, the TBI Project has established a reputation for providing timely, accurate, and relevant information and resources concerning TBI in Michigan.

➤ Key Information / Significant Changes this Year

- Rates of nonfatal **hospitalizations of Michigan residents related to TBI have increased** over the past eight years.
- Over the same time period, the rate of TBI-related deaths has decreased – **more Michiganders are living with TBI.**
- There is only one public service program specifically targeted to rehabilitation of people with TBI: the Medicaid TBI Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Program, which serves 15-30 people annually.
- Since going live in April 2006, over 1,434 users have registered for the online TBI training course, and the project has received inquiries from around the country asking for permission to replicate the course in other states.
- The project continued outreach to veterans with TBI, developing a TBI brochure for veterans and strengthening the partnership with the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
- The project continued to reach consumers and providers with information and educational materials about TBI through an update of the MDCH TBI website – www.Michigan.gov/tbi.

➤ Training Michigan's Public Service Professionals

The online TBI training curricula continues to be popular and well received. The free training, found at www.mitbitraining.org, consists of four self-study modules including: 1) Introduction to TBI, 2) Interacting and working effectively with persons with TBI, 3) Screening for TBI, and 4) Public services in Michigan. Beginning in April 2007, training registrants had the opportunity to earn free continuing education credits toward the following professional licenses in Michigan: Education, Nursing, Social Work, and Case Management.

In August 2007, *The Michigan Resource Guide for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their Families* was updated and reprinted for a third time since its creation. This popular document provides comprehensive information and resources for persons with TBI, including a thorough listing of services and financial support in Michigan. Companion materials, brochures for consumers, providers, and other caregivers, were also updated and reprinted. All of these documents were translated into both Spanish and Arabic and are available for downloading from the newly updated TBI Project website at www.michigan.gov/tbi.

➤ Working with Veterans Groups

TBI has been identified as the 'hallmark injury' of the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Meanwhile, recent media coverage has identified problems with medical treatment available to veterans. The TBI Services and Prevention Council Training Committee advised the TBI Project in the creation of a new brochure to provide returning veterans with information about brain injury and sources of help.

The MDCH TBI Project collaborates with the Brain Injury Association of Michigan (BIAMI) to reach out to returning veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. With financial assistance from the TBI Project, BIAMI conducts regular trainings with troops and returned service members from around Michigan.

➤ Key Findings in 2007- 2008

Several key findings from earlier studies on TBI in Michigan have guided project efforts over the past year:

- Medicaid reimburses for some services for acute TBI diagnoses for about 28,958 beneficiaries per year (an underestimate since services related to long-term needs after a TBI might not be identified).
- **Identified average annual costs to Michigan's Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) for procedures with a TBI diagnosis are about \$19,779,661 per year**

TBI-Related Cost, Medicaid-FFS (only), FY2002-2006

State of Michigan Fiscal Year	Number of Medicaid-FFS beneficiaries with TBI	Total Amount Paid for TBI-related claims
FY2002	9,240	\$17,089,457.10
FY2003	10,113	\$18,938,589.82
FY2004	10,897	\$18,712,347.33
FY2005	12,527	\$20,820,509.13
FY2006	13,688	\$23,337,404.33
FY2002-2006	50,239	\$98,898,307.71
Average amount per fiscal year	11,293	\$19,779,661.54

Data on Michigan hospitalizations and deaths in which TBI was a diagnosis or contributing cause have been analyzed annually since 1999, through 2006. On average, there are 1,551 deaths and 9,430 nonfatal hospitalizations of Michigan residents with a diagnosis of TBI every year. There are 94 nonfatal TBI hospitalizations per 100,000 Michigan residents annually. (Hospitalizations in which the discharge was death are not counted as hospitalized cases since they are counted as fatal cases.)

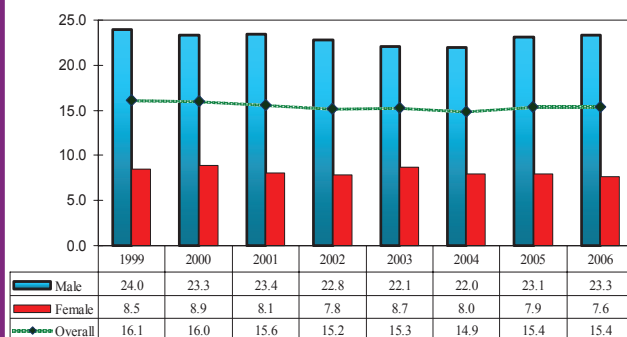
Incidence of Fatal and Non-fatal Hospitalized Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) in Michigan

Year	No. of Fatal Cases	Fatal TBI Rates Per 100,000	No. of Nonfatal Hosp Cases	Hosp. Rates Per 100,000
1999	1,585	16.07	8,612	87.31
2000	1,591	15.98	8,703	87.41
2001	1,563	15.62	9,275	92.72
2002	1,523	15.17	9,669	96.32
2003	1,538	15.25	9,064	90.03
2004	1,502	14.85	9,547	94.59
2005	1,557	15.41	10,211	101.09
2006	1,550	15.35	10,358	102.60

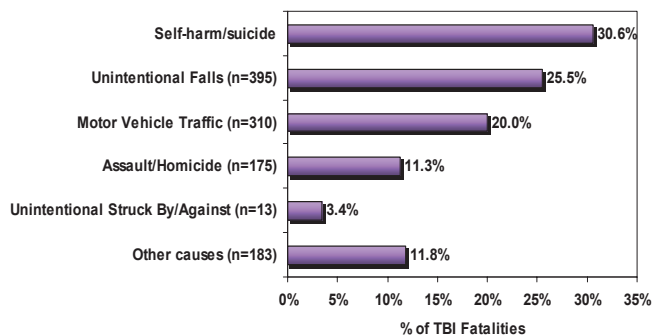
- During 1999 – 2006: The rate of TBI-related nonfatal hospitalizations has increased from 87.31 to 102.60 per 100,000 people.
- The rate of TBI-related fatalities, however, has decreased from 16.07 in 1999 to 15.35 per 100,000 people in 2006.
- Significantly more males than females died (73% vs. 27%) or were hospitalized (62% vs. 38%) due to TBI.

- The risk of having a fatal or hospitalized TBI is highest among 15-24 year-old males and persons older than 75 years of age.
- In 2006, suicide (31%), unintentional falls (26%) and motor vehicle crashes (20%) were the leading causes of TBI deaths; unintentional falls (43%) and motor vehicle crashes (31%) were the leading causes of TBI hospitalizations.
- Violence-related TBIs (assault) are significant in both deaths (11%) and hospitalizations (13%).

Michigan Trends in TBI-Related Fatality Rates by Sex (1999 to 2006)

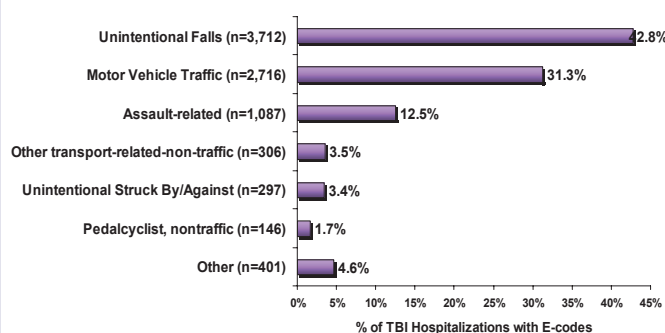


Fatal TBI by Main Cause of Injury (2006; n=1,550 cases)



Nonfatal TBI Hospitalizations by Main Cause of Injury

(2006; n=8,665 Hospitalizations with E-codes)



Additional data on TBI in Michigan is available at: www.Michigan.gov/tbi.

➤ Getting the Message Out

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently created tool kits for young athletes, their parents and coaches on the prevention and appropriate response to concussion. The Prevention Committee is collaborating with the CDC to ensure these materials are disseminated widely to appropriate Michigan school coaches, principals, and other administrators, as well as to families, athletes and students.

➤ Improving Michigan's Public Safety and Services

The Policy and Prevention Committees are monitoring progress of child transportation safety legislation, and along with the TBI Services and Prevention Council as a whole, strongly support legislation to require booster seats for children between the ages of 4 and 8. Initial booster seat legislation passed in March 2008 requiring children under 8 years old or under 4'9" to be in a car seat or booster seat. Advocates are now completing this law to remove an exemption for nursing mothers.

The Policy Committee monitors and advises the TBI Services and Prevention Council on other matters. One area of concern is potential legislation that would allow motorists to purchase reduced coverage for catastrophic accidents. Michigan is in the unique and enviable position that for the 30% plus people who have their TBI in an automobile-related incident, medical and rehabilitation coverage is lifelong and comprehensive. The Policy Committee knows that if this coverage were unavailable, Medicaid would end up picking up much of the costs.

The TBI project has been working with the MDCH interagency workgroup to design a Medicaid Waiver for persons with TBI. The proposed target population for the waiver would be people with TBI who would otherwise be at risk of living in a nursing home or other institution. It is called a 'waiver' because certain Medicaid regulations are waived by the federal government as long as the state promises to meet specific criteria. The waiver application has been drafted at MDCH and is now awaiting approval.

A series of educational materials about TBI and services for eligible individuals is available for free download at www.Michigan.gov/tbi. Products may also be ordered by contacting: Joan Moore, (517) 324-8396 or info@mitbitraining.org.

For the General Public and Consumers

- *Michigan Resource Guide for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury and their Families* (Available for downloading in English, Spanish, and Arabic)
- "Resources for Persons with Brain Injury and their Families" (Brochure available in English, Spanish, and Arabic)
- "Resources for Veterans with Brain Injury and their Families" (Brochure available in English, Spanish, and Arabic)

For Service Providers

- Traumatic Brain Injury Online Training for Service Providers: www.mitbitraining.org (Also available on compact disc)
- *Access Guidelines to State Services for Persons with Traumatic Brain Injury* (online only)
- *Traumatic Brain Injury Provider Training Manual* (online only)
- "Important Information about Working with Persons with Brain Injury and their Families" (Brochure)

For more information about public services for people with TBI, please contact: John Jokisch, TBI Project Director at: jokisch@michigan.gov or (517) 335-0244.